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## Finance, Revenue, Bonding Committee Testimony

March 7, 2011

### Public Testimony by Neil Holme Impact Business Technology

Good afternoon Senator Daily, Representative Widlitz, and members of the Finance Committee. My name is Neil Holme, President of Impact Business Technology, based in Sandy Hook, CT. I am here to testify on the Governor's Revenue Recommendations in Senate Bill 1007 – and more specifically, Section 6 dealing with the Digital Media and Motion Picture Tax Credit Program.

My company provides computer networking and technical support services in Fairfield County.

We have seen a very positive impact from the expansion of the film and digital media industry here in Connecticut. Before the film tax credits were created by the Connecticut legislature in 2006, we did not have any entertainment industry clients. However, in the past two years alone we have provided our services to companies such as Connecticut Film Center, Mako Games, Remote Broadcasting Corporation, which produces the SHOWTIME series, "The Big C," and AWTY Productions, which produces the TBS television sitcom, "Are We There Yet?" With each production came new jobs and new networking needs. And I should also mention, that whenever I would walk into the production offices it was terrific to see all the different Connecticut vendors working together to help facilitate the production of the show. These included phone, copier, car and furniture rental companies, food deliveries, etc.



Over the past 3 years, we have provided networking and computer services supporting several hundred people at these film, television and digital media productions, none of which would have been possible without the tax credit program.

Servicing the entertainment industry is only part of our business, but it's an important part. We have seen the rapid growth of this industry since the tax credits were introduced, and we are excited to see how much it will continue to grow in the future.

The very possibility of proposed legislation that could negatively impact the credits is unsettling. In these tough economic times, we should be doing whatever we can to attract businesses and create jobs.

At Impact Business Technology, we strongly support the film and digital media tax credits.

Thank you for your time.